

## LACING SYSTEM

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

2/14/05  
This is a Continuation-In-Part application of pending US application serial # 10/098,218 filed March 14, 2002, <sup>now abandoned</sup> the disclosure of which is hereby fully incorporated by reference, which is a Continuation-In-Part application of international application # PCT/US01/28664 filed September 14, 2001, the disclosure of which is hereby fully incorporated by reference, which entered the U.S. National stage as application serial Number 10/089,633 filed March 28, 2002. This application is entitled to the benefit of Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/355,287 filed February 6, 2002. The prior art of pending US application serial # 10/098,218 filed March 14, 2002 is included in this application.

#### 1. Field of Invention

The present invention relates to the manner in which laces traverse the adjustable opening of sneakers for fastening. More generally, this invention relates to a lacing system which, in addition to fastening shoes, can be used to fasten articles of manufacture such as corsets, garments, orthopedic devices, or luggage etc.

#### 2. Description of the Related Art

To tightly fasten conventional sneakers the user criss-crosses and pulls on the two (2) lace ends at each eyelet pair, starting at the bottom eyelets, until he reaches the top eyelets, after which he makes a bow knot to secure the shoe. In this manner, the laces have been tightened to provide a snug fit. Of course, some users will not